

Proclamation

Declaring May, 2011

Neuro-fibromatosis (NF) Awareness Month Across America

- Whereas,** NF causes tumors to grow on nerves anywhere in the body, bone and skin tumors, bone deformities such as spinal scoliosis; leg bowing or twisting, café au lait spots on the skin, deafness, blindness; learning disabilities; debilitating pain, heart defects and even death; and
- Whereas,** NF is more prevalent than Cystic Fibrosis, Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, Tay Sachs and Huntington's Disease combined; and
- Whereas,** NF can appear in any family and is worldwide in distribution, affects both sexes equally and has no particular racial or ethnic distribution; and 85% of cases are sporadic (no previous family history) and 15% are inherited; and
- Whereas,** While over 120,000 Americans have NF and one of every 3,000 newborns will develop the disorder, it still is relatively unknown to the public and much remains to be done to raise awareness of NF's devastating effects and the need for funding for research to prevent, treat and cure NF;
- Whereas,** The Children's Tumor Foundation (www.ctf.org, 800-323-7938) leads the efforts to fund critical research aimed at finding the causes of the disorder and developing treatments and a cure, and to provide support to people and families affected by NF; and
- Whereas,** NF research benefits an additional 100 million Americans (i.e. 65 million with cancer and 35 million with learning disabilities; and
- Whereas,** The Children's Tumor Foundation is observing May as National Neurofibromatosis (NF) Awareness Month nationally to inform the public about this common genetic disorder;

Now Therefore, I, [REDACTED], Mayor, in recognition of this important initiative, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2011 as

"Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month"

In the City of [REDACTED], and urge our citizens to join the Children's Tumor Foundation's effort to increase awareness of the importance of finding a treatment and a cure to NF.

Mayor